

REMARKS

This is a Supplemental Response to the Response filed on August 3, 2007.

Although additional amendments have been made in the present response, Applicants stand behind the arguments set forth in the prior response (mailed April 16, 2007).

Applicants also address remarks by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed September 20, 2007, which indicates that the prior response was not fully responsive.

I. Objection to the Specification

On page 2 of the Office Action mailed April 16, 2007, the Examiner indicates that the disclosure is objected to because page 5 of the specification is missing. As an initial matter, Applicants point out that Applicants failed to receive any Notice of Missing Parts. MPEP 601.01(d) states the following (emphasis added):

"If the application is filed without all of the page(s) of the specification, but containing something that can be construed as a written description, at least one drawing figure, if necessary under 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence), and, in a nonprovisional application, at least one claim, OIPE will mail a "Notice of Omitted Items" indicating that the application papers so deposited have been accorded a filing date, but are lacking some page(s) of the specification."

Applicants were not notified of the missing page until the first Office Action mailed April 16, 2007. As such, Applicants were unfairly denied the opportunity to correct the defect earlier. Notwithstanding, the present application is a division of Application Serial No. 09/640,123, filed on August 16, 2000 (now U.S. Pat No. 6,765,954), and is incorporated by reference into the application. Accordingly, Applicants relies on the incorporation by reference under 37 CFR 1.57 and submits a substitute specification

which includes missing page 5. Applicants further submit that this is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b)(3) and 1.125. The substitute specification adds no new matter.

II. Support for Amendments

In addressing the amendments made to claim 35, the Examiner indicates that Applicants failed to indicate where in the specification support for the added subject matter can be found. The amendments entered in the response filed August 3, 2007 are shown below:

35. A method for preventing ~~a transmission unit from forwarding a transmit signal that may result in a~~ DC flow condition caused by a transmit signal, comprising:
monitoring a data signal;
generating a first signal in response to a data signal condition to prevent the DC flow condition;
monitoring a clock signal; and
generating a second signal in response to a clock signal condition to prevent the DC flow condition.

Applicants submit that no new matter is added by the amendment and that full support can be found in the specification. Generally, the present invention is directed to a method for preventing a transmission unit from forwarding signals that may result in a DC flow condition. In particular, the method both detects and triggers an appropriate response when signals designated for transmission indicate a potential damaging operating mode. (See Summary of the Invention section.) Support for the amendments above can be found, for example, on at least: page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 9; page 11, line 5 to page 12, line 2; and FIGS. 6, 8 (and related text).

In the Office Action mailed September 20, 2007, the Examiner requests that the Applicants "include a flow chart showing the claim steps as recited in claim 35." In

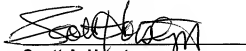
response, Applicants respectfully submit that the steps recited in claim 35 are already fully supported by the specification, including FIGS. 6 and 8. FIG. 6 is a flow chart illustrating a method for detecting a clock signal that can be applied by the clock signal supervisor of FIG. 5. FIG. 8 is a flow chart illustrating a method for detecting a data signal that can result in DC flow that may be applied by the data signal supervisor of FIG. 7. With regards to FIG. 8, for example, the related text states that the method may proceed to step 272 where a variable, OUTPUT, may be set to 1 or to a high logic level. Moreover, Applicants refer the Examiner to 37 CFR §1.81, which states (emphasis added): "[t]he applicant for a patent is required to furnish a drawing of his or her invention where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented." Finally, Applicants respectfully note that numerous patents are issued without any drawings.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 50-0835.

Respectfully submitted,


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